

PROTOCOLS, MEDICATIONS AND DEVICES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
October 24, 2002

MEMBERS

PRESENT

Janine Anderson
David Bank, MD
Patricia Ellis
John Gallagher, MD
Rob Jarvis
Jane Lee, PharmD
Terence Mason
Richard Thomas, PharmD

MEMBERS

ABSENT

Steve Curry, MD
Charles Finch, DO
Marc Holyfield
Sue Kern
Terry Shine

GUESTS

Brian Smith
Mark Venuti

BEMS

STAFF

Judi Crume, PhD
Chuck Kramer
Larry Lorenzen
Susan Nicolas
Jerry Ollier
Michel Sucher, MD

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Richard Thomas called the meeting to order at 11:17 a.m. A quorum was present.

II. DISCUSS/AMEND and APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Dr. John Gallagher, seconded by Patricia Ellis, to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

III. DISCUSS/AMEND and APPROVE MINUTES

Two errors were found in the Minutes from February 21, 2002. The first error was on page 2, section VI, subsection A, third line down, the word "Frusemide" corrected to "Furosemide". The second error was on page 2, section VI, subsection D, second line, the word "Di" corrected to "Diazepam". Patricia Ellis motioned with a second by Terence Mason to approve the Minutes from February 21, 2002 as corrected. Motion carried.

IV. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Dr. Thomas had nothing to report. He did thank the committee members present for attending the meeting therefore allowing a quorum.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Revisions to RSI/MAI Pilot Project Protocol

Dr. Gallagher gave a short update on the RSI/MAI Pilot Project. He stated that the reports coming back to him from the participating agencies have all been favorable. Dr. Thomas asked what is the total number of cases that have been enrolled? Terence Mason responded about 18 in the East Valley and Mark Venuti reported seven. No action by the committee.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Amendments to Committee Bylaws

Dr. Sucher presented this item. He started out by saying that the EMS Council Executive Committee has been looking at the statutory and standing committees' bylaws over the past few months to see if there were ways of streamlining these bylaws to make them less restrictive and more inclusive as to the work of each

committee. He summarized the important points of the Agenda Item Cover Sheet attached to the amended PMD Bylaws found in the Agenda packet. The most important changes are: (1) committee membership structure changed to eleven members or less for efficiency purposes and (2) once a year the Bureau Chief, Medical Director and the Committee Chair will meet to look at the membership of the committee to see if we have the right mix of representation to move the committee and its work forward. Within the next couple of months, PMD Committee work will be defined for the next year and then membership will be defined and potential members contacted. The Bureau also tried to get the members present at a meeting to be the quorum but the Attorney General's Office would not allow this to happen. A discussion on dosages of aspirin, especially for pediatrics, ensued. Dr. Thomas asked if this item of discussion could be placed as an agenda item for MDC and EMSC? Dr. Sucher responded that he could bring it up in the Chair's Report of each committee. A motion by Dr. Gallagher and seconded by Mr. Mason for approval of the PMD Bylaws as written.
Motion carried.

B. Committee Membership

This item was covered in Item "VI-A".

C. Exemption and Use of Amiodarone in the Southeastern Region

Dr. Sucher gave a history of Amiodarone telling how it got to be placed on the drug box list as an optional medication. The question is should Amiodarone be made a mandatory drug in the drug box? After a discussion, it was decided to leave the drug as an optional medication. A committee member asked if a drug profile for Amiodarone exists and Dr. Sucher responded that if there wasn't one already, one will be made up and made available. No action by the Committee.

D. Review of Use and Drug Profile of Mark I Kits

Dr. Thomas presented this item and started by distributing to all in attendance a draft drug profile for the Mark I Kit. It was requested that the Mark I Kits be put on the drug list as an optional drug for the drug boxes. Dr. Bank suggested that a dosing program for pediatrics is set up for the Mark I Kit. He offered to do the research and put together a pediatric dosing program for the Kit. Terry Mason spoke about the training program for the Mark I Kit at Mesa Fire Department. A motion by Dr. Gallagher, seconded by Dr. Bank, that the Committee recommends the adoption of this drug profile, with the addition of the recommendations of drug dosages for pediatrics, to the Medical Direction Commission and that the Mark I Kits be added as an optional drug in the paramedic formulary.
Motion carried.

VII. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

1. Janine Anderson asked that "or" be added between each of the three dosages of furosemide listed on the drug list because without the "or" the Bureau's ambulance inspectors are thinking that all the dosages have to be carried, which is too much of that drug in the drug box. Dr. Sucher responded that it should be "or" and that it will be corrected.

2. Patricia Ellis brought up the item of blood listed on the drug list as an IV Infusion. The paramedics are under the impression that blood can be carried in the ambulances unrefrigerated and used for as many IV infusions they feel are needed. She feels this is wrong and should be looked at by the Bureau for possible change. Dr. Sucher asked Pat to put this in writing to him and he will make sure that this item is clarified for the paramedics. Pat said she would do that.
3. Dr. Janet Lee was asked if she had completed her research into midazolam and she responded “yes” and found that midazolam is a safe drug for use by the paramedics.

VIII. MEMBERS’ EDUCATIONAL and INFORMATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

None to report.

IX. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the PMD Committee is scheduled for February 20, 2003, at 1:00 p.m. (the meeting on November 21, 2002 is canceled because of its close proximity to this meeting).

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:21 p.m.

Approved by PMD Committee on 5/15/03